

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of PACIONE, Joseph R.
Serial No.:
Filing Date:
Title: Anchor Sheet Attachment Devices
Art Unit:
Examiner:
Atty's Docket No.: 52498/00042

The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20331
U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

This is a preliminary amendment.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following passage at top of page 1 of the description:

--Related Applications

This application is a continuation-in-part application of PCT/CA 00/00681 filed June 7, 2000 designating the United States, which application is a continuation-in-part of United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/326,634 filed June 7, 1999, abandoned. Both of these prior applications are incorporated herein by reference.--

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(1), a substitute page 1 containing the added paragraph is enclosed.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1 to 28 of the parent application, international patent application No. PCT/CA 00/00681, and adding the following claims 29 to 76.

29. A subfloor for covering a floor to form a surface to receive a detachable decorative floor covering, the subfloor comprising:

- a plurality of anchor sheets each having a first upper surface substantially covered by a means for detachable attachment;
- the plurality of anchor sheets being arranged to substantially cover the floor to form a subfloor having the upper surface;
- a plurality of passageways extending formed in whole or in part from one or more anchor sheets from the upper surface of the subfloor to the floor;
- the passageways having a portion countersunk from the upper surface of the subfloor, forming a first bearing surface below the plane of the subfloor;
- a plurality of attachment devices each having a second upper surface substantially covered by a means for detachable attachment;
- the plurality of attachment devices being shaped to fit into the passageways, the attachment devices having a wider upper portion to create a second bearing surface;
- the plurality of attachment devices being inserted into the passageways such that the second bearing surface faces the first bearing surface; and
- at least some of the attachment devices being attached to the floor.

30. The subfloor of claim 29, wherein:

- the anchor sheets have at least two adjacent edges which have a lower portion cut away to create an overhanging area of anchor sheet and at least two adjacent lower edges substantially under the overhang;
- the anchor sheets have at least two adjacent edges which have an upper portion cut away to create an underlay area of anchor sheet leaving at least two adjacent underlay edges at the outer edge of the underlay; and
- the plurality of anchor sheets are arranged in overlapping fashion to substantially cover the floor to form a subfloor.

31. The subfloor of claim 30 wherein the means for detachable attachment is hooks for use in a hook and loop attachment system.

32. The subfloor of claim 31 wherein:

the anchor sheets have a first lower surface opposite the first upper surface covered by a first resilient layer; and
the attachment devices have a second lower surface opposite the second upper surface covered by a second resilient layer.

33. The subfloor of claim 32 wherein the first resilient layer and the second resilient layer is a structure with the properties of a resilient cushion.

34. The subfloor of claim 31, wherein the anchor sheets are polygonal and have corners and are arranged on the floor so at least some of the corners meet and at least one passageway is located at the intersection of the apexes of at least some of the corners which meet.

35. The subfloor of claim 34 wherein a passageway is located at substantially all of the intersections of the apexes of the corners which meet.

36. The subfloor of claim 31, wherein some of the attachment devices are attached to the anchor sheets.

37. The subfloor of claim 31, wherein the anchor sheets are rectangular.

38. The subfloor of claim 31, wherein the plurality of attachment devices inserted in the passageways are smaller than the passageways so that the surrounding anchor sheets can move in relation to the attachment devices and in which the anchor sheets are installed so that there is a gap between adjacent anchor sheets to allow for expansion and contraction

39. The subfloor of claim 30, wherein at least one passageway is located at the apexes of the angles formed by any two of the lower edges and the underlay edges.

40. A subfloor for covering a floor to form a surface to receive a detachable decorative floor covering having a loop undersurface comprising:

a plurality of square anchor sheets each having a first upper surface substantially covered by hooks for attachment to loops of an overlapping decorative covering and each having a first lower surface having a resilient cushion layer;

each anchor sheet having two adjacent edges which have a lower portion cut away to create an overhanging area of anchor sheet and two adjacent lower edges substantially under the overhang and having two adjacent edges having an upper portion cut away to create an underlay area of anchor sheet leaving at least two additional underlay edges at the outer edge of the underlay;

the plurality of anchor sheets being arranged in a chess board pattern in which the overhanging area of anchor sheet overlaps part of the underlay area of two adjacent anchor sheets to substantially cover the floor;

a plurality of circular passageways extending from the upper surface of the subfloor to the floor located approximately at the apexes of the angles formed by any two of the lower edges;

the passageways having a first portion countersunk from the upper surface of the subfloor and forming a first bearing surface below the plane of the subfloor;

a plurality of circular attachment devices each having a second upper surface substantially covered by hooks and each having a second lower surface having a resilient cushion layer; and

the plurality of attachment devices being inserted into the passageways such that the second bearing surface faces the first bearing surface and shaped so that the first upper surface and the second upper surface are substantially flush, and at least some of the devices being attached to the floor.

41. A method of installing an anchor sheet subfloor over a floor, the subfloor to receive a detachable decorative covering, said anchor sheets having a cut-away section of reduced thickness of a first area of a first shape at the corners of the anchor sheets and a complete cut of a smaller second area of a second shape within the first area, comprising the steps of:

laying the anchor sheets over a floor;

aligning the anchor sheets so that the corners of the anchor sheets match;

inserting the attachment devices in the completely cut area at the apexes formed by the corners of the anchor sheets; and

attaching at least some of the attachment devices to either the floor or to the anchor sheets they overlap.

42. The method of claim 41 wherein the step of attaching at least some of the attachment devices to either the floor or to the anchor sheets they overlap consists of attaching some of the attachment devices to the floor and the remaining attachment devices to the anchor sheets they overlap.

43. The method of claim 41 wherein the step of attaching at least some of the attachment devices to either the floor or to the anchor sheets they overlap consists of attaching all of the attachment devices to the anchor sheets they overlap.

44. The method of claim 41 wherein the step of attaching at least some of the attachment devices to either the floor or to the anchor sheets they overlap consists of attaching all of the attachment devices to the floor.

45. The method of claim 41 further comprising a step of detachably attaching a decorative covering to the anchor sheets and attachment devices.

46. The method of claim 41 wherein the attachment devices are smaller than the first and second areas and in which the step of laying the anchor sheets over a floor comprises laying the anchor sheets over a floor so that there is a gap between adjacent anchor sheets.

47. An anchor sheet shaped to have a substantially flat square lower layer part having an underside covered in a resilient cushion and a substantially flat square upper layer part of the same size as the lower layer part having an upper side substantially covered in hooks in which the upper layer part is offset from the lower layer part an equal amount along two adjacent edges to expose two adjacent portions of the lower layer part and in which countersunk holes are formed through the anchor sheet centred on the corners formed by the lower layer part.

48. A subfloor for covering a floor to form a surface to receive a detachable decorative floor covering, the subfloor comprising:

a plurality of anchor sheets each having a first upper surface substantially covered by a means for detachable attachment;

the plurality of anchor sheets being arranged to substantially cover the floor to form a subfloor;

the anchor sheets having a recess of a first shape reducing the thickness of the anchor sheet in a first area and a complete cut through the anchor sheet of a second shape of a smaller second area within the first area;

a plurality of attachment devices each having a second upper surface substantially covered by a means for detachable attachment;

the plurality of attachment devices having a first portion shaped to fit in the recess and a second portion shaped to fit in the complete cut;

the plurality of attachment devices being inserted in the plurality of recesses and complete cuts; and

at least some of the attachment devices being attached to the floor.

49. The subfloor of claim 48, wherein:

the anchor sheets have at least two adjacent edges which have a lower portion cut away to create an overhanging area of anchor sheet and at least two adjacent lower edges substantially under the overhang;

the anchor sheets have at least two adjacent edges which have an upper portion cut away to create an underlay area of anchor sheet leaving at least two adjacent underlay edges at the outer edge of the underlay; and

the plurality of anchor sheets are arranged in overlapping fashion to substantially cover the floor to form a subfloor.

50. The subfloor of claim 49 wherein the means for detachable attachment is hooks for use in a hook and loop attachment system.

51. The subfloor of claim 50 wherein:

the anchor sheets have a first lower surface opposite the first upper surface covered by a first resilient layer; and

the attachment devices have a second lower surface opposite the second upper surface covered by a second resilient layer.

52. The subfloor of claim 50, wherein the anchor sheets are rectangular.

53. The subfloor of claim 50, wherein the plurality of attachment devices inserted in the plurality of recesses and complete cuts are smaller than the first and second areas so that the surrounding anchor sheets can move in relation to the attachment devices and in which the anchor sheets are installed so that there is a gap between adjacent anchor sheets.

54. The subfloor of claim 50, wherein the first shape is the same shape as the second shape.

55. The subfloor of claim 50, wherein the recess and complete cut are at the corners of the anchor sheet.

56. The subfloor of claim 49, wherein the complete cut is at the apexes of the angles formed by any two of the lower edges and the underlay edges.

57. A kit for installing a subfloor for attaching a decorative covering, the kit comprising:
at least one anchor sheet having a first upper surface substantially covered by a means for detachable attachment;
the at least one anchor sheet having a recess of a first shape reducing the thickness of the anchor sheet in a first area and a complete cut through the anchor sheet of a smaller second area within the first area of a second shape;
at least one attachment device having a second upper surface substantially covered by a means for detachable attachment; and
the at least one attachment device having a first portion shaped to fit in the recess and a second portion shaped to fit in the complete cut.

58. The kit of claim 57, further comprising:
the at least one anchor sheet having at least two adjacent edges which have a lower portion cut away to create an overhanging area of anchor sheet and at least two adjacent lower edges substantially under the overhang; and
the at least one anchor sheet having at least two adjacent edges which have an upper portion cut away to create an underlay area of anchor sheet leaving at least two adjacent underlay edges at the outer edge of the underlay.

59. The kit of claim 57, further comprising:
the means for attachment being hooks for use in a hook and loop attachment system.
60. An anchor sheet for use in a subfloor for detachable attachment to a decorative covering, the anchor sheet comprising:
an upper surface having a means for detachable attachment to the decorative covering;
a lower surface opposite the upper surface, the lower surface being covered with a resilient layer;
a recess of a first shape reducing the thickness of the anchor sheet in a first area; and
a complete cut through the anchor sheet of a smaller second area within the first area of a second shape.
61. The anchor sheet of 60, the anchor sheet having at least two adjacent edges which have a lower portion cut away to create an overhanging area of anchor sheet and at least two adjacent lower edges substantially under the overhang; and the anchor sheet having at least two adjacent edges which have an upper portion cut away to create an underlay area of anchor sheet leaving at least two adjacent underlay edges at the outer edge of the underlay.
62. The anchor sheet of claim 60, wherein the means for attachment are hooks for use in a hook and loop attachment system.
63. The anchor sheet of claim 62, wherein the resilient layer is a structure that has the properties of a resilient cushion.
64. The anchor sheet of claim 62, wherein the anchor sheet is rectangular.
65. An attachment device for use in a subfloor with a corresponding anchor sheet for detachable attachment to a decorative covering, the anchor sheet having a recess of a first shape reducing the thickness of the anchor sheet in a first area, the anchor sheet having a complete cut of a smaller second area of a second shape within the first area, the attachment device comprising:
a first upper surface bearing a means for detachable attachment;

a first portion attached to the first upper surface and shaped to fit in the recess;
a second portion attached to the first portion and shaped to fit in the complete cut;
the second portion having a lower surface covered with a flexible rigid layer; and
the second portion having at least one resilient layer.

66. The attachment device of claim 65, wherein the means for detachable attachment are hooks for use in a hook and loop attachment system.

67. The attachment piece of claim 66, wherein the attachment device has a flexible rigid upper surface.

68. The attachment device of claim 66, wherein the first portion is smaller than the recess and the second portion is smaller than the complete cut.

69. A method of installing an anchor sheet and attachment piece subfloor over a floor, the subfloor to receive a detachable decorative covering, said anchor sheets having an upper surface having a means for detachable attachment to the decorative covering and a cut-away section of reduced thickness of a first area of a first shape and a complete cut through the anchor sheet of a smaller second area of a second shape within the first area, said attachment devices having an upper surface having a means for detachable attachment to the decorative covering, comprising the steps of:

laying the anchor sheets over a floor;
inserting the attachment devices in the complete cut areas; and
attaching at least some of the attachment devices to either the floor or to the surrounding anchor sheets.

70. The method of claim 69, wherein the anchor sheets are designed to overlap and the step of laying the anchor sheets over a floor consists of laying the anchor sheets in overlapping fashion over a floor.

71. The method of claim 70, wherein the step of attaching at least some of the attachment devices to either the floor or to the anchor sheets they overlap consists of attaching some of

the attachment devices to the floor and the remaining attachment devices to the anchor sheets they overlap.

72. The method of claim 70 wherein the step of attaching at least some of the attachment devices to either the floor or to the anchor sheets they overlap consists of attaching all of the attachment devices to the anchor sheets they overlap.

73. The method of claim 70 wherein the step of attaching at least some of the attachment devices to either the floor or to the anchor sheets they overlap consists of attaching all of the attachment devices to the floor.

74. A method of installing an anchor sheet subfloor with an upper surface and a lower surface over a floor to receive a detachable decorative covering, said subfloor having passageways extending from the upper surface of the subfloor to the lower surface of the subfloor, said upper surface having a means of detachable attachment to the decorative covering, comprising the steps of:

- arranging the anchor sheets over a floor;
- inserting attachment devices in the passageways; and
- attaching at least some of the attachment devices to either the floor or to the surrounding anchor sheets.

75. The method of claim 74, wherein the anchor sheets are designed to overlap and the step of arranging the anchor sheets over a floor consists of arranging the anchor sheets in overlapping fashion over a floor.

76. A square anchor sheet for use in a subfloor for detachable attachment to a decorative covering, the decorative covering having a lower surface substantially covered by loops, the square anchor sheet comprising:

- an upper surface substantially covered by hooks, the hooks for attachment to the loops of an overlaid decorative covering;
- a lower surface opposite the upper surface, the lower surface being covered with a resilient layer;

two adjacent edges which have a lower portion cut away to create an overhanging area of anchor sheet and two adjacent lower edges substantially under the overhang;

two adjacent edges which have an upper portion cut away to create an underlay area of anchor sheet leaving at least two adjacent underlay edges at the outer edge of the underlay;

four circular recesses reducing the thickness of the anchor sheet;

one of the circular recesses centred on the apexes of the angles formed by the two lower edges;

one of the circular recesses centred on the apexes of the angles formed by the two underlay edges;

two of the circular recesses centred on the apexes of the angles formed by an underlay edge and a lower edge;

four circular complete cuts through the anchor sheet of a smaller diameter than the four circular recesses; and

the four circular complete cuts located at the centre of the four circular recesses.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(3), a clean version of the entire set of claims 29 to 76 is enclosed.

REMARKS

Claims 29 to 76 are pending the application.

No new matter has been added by the amendments to the claims. The claims are based on amendments made during the international stage of prosecution.

Should any Patent Office Official want to telephone, the call should be made to John C. Hunt (Registration No. 36,424) at (416) 863-4344.

Yours very truly,



December 6, 2001

Date

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ANCHOR SHEET ATTACHMENT DEVICES

Related Applications

This application is a continuation-in-part application of PCT/CA 00/00681 filed June 7, 2000 designating the United States, which application is a continuation-in-part of United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/326,634 filed June 7, 1999, abandoned. Both of these prior applications are incorporated herein by reference.

INTRODUCTION TO THE INVENTION

This invention concerns improvements to attach a flexible but relatively rigid anchor sheet for use under carpets or other decorative coverings as described in current inventor's U.S. applications 08/850,726 filed May 2, 1997, 09/008,565 filed January 16, 1998 and 09/008,584 filed January 16, 1998. This application incorporates by reference the teachings of these earlier applications except where those teachings may have been modified by new developments as set out herein. The current inventor has invented an anchor sheet which, when installed, acts to tie decorative covering together as a functional unit and to add mass and stability to such unit, particularly in the case of a unit having a flexible decorative covering such as a carpet. The anchor sheet may be substantially covered over one side with hooks for anchoring a decorative covering to it by engagement of complementary loops on the under side of the decorative covering. The anchor sheet itself may be attached to the underlying substrate, such as a floor or wall, or it may be loose laid on a floor where the anchor sheet can have sufficient mass so as to prevent movement of the anchor sheet. The present invention provides attachment devices so as to minimize attachment of the anchor sheet to the underlying substrate, and to allow for the possibility of spacing between anchor sheet units in order to accommodate atmospheric changes. It is possible to supply the anchor sheet in modular units of various geometric shapes and sizes with corresponding complementary corner pieces.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The earlier cases by the same inventor Pacione disclose an anchor sheet which can be supplied as a small or large module, with or without a pre-attached decorative covering. These earlier cases also disclose the anchor sheet as a modular unit which can form a contiguous mass of anchor sheet. Such a contiguous mass can be formed by attaching the anchor sheets together by some form of overlap or by abutting the anchor sheets to each other and using an overlap of decorative covering or tape. Such mass can be free floating or attached to the floor.

Claims submitted in preliminary amendment December 2001

I claim:

29. A subfloor for covering a floor to form a surface to receive a detachable decorative

5 floor covering, the subfloor comprising:

a plurality of anchor sheets each having a first upper surface substantially covered by
a means for detachable attachment;

the plurality of anchor sheets being arranged to substantially cover the floor to form a
subfloor having the upper surface;

10 a plurality of passageways extending formed in whole or in part from one or more
anchor sheets from the upper surface of the subfloor to the floor;

the passageways having a portion countersunk from the upper surface of the subfloor,
forming a first bearing surface below the plane of the subfloor;

a plurality of attachment devices each having a second upper surface substantially
covered by a means for detachable attachment;

the plurality of attachment devices being shaped to fit into the passageways, the
attachment devices having a wider upper portion to create a second bearing
surface;

the plurality of attachment devices being inserted into the passageways such that the
second bearing surface faces the first bearing surface; and
at least some of the attachment devices being attached to the floor.

30. The subfloor of claim 29, wherein:

the anchor sheets have at least two adjacent edges which have a lower portion cut
away to create an overhanging area of anchor sheet and at least two adjacent
lower edges substantially under the overhang;

the anchor sheets have at least two adjacent edges which have an upper portion cut
away to create an underlay area of anchor sheet leaving at least two adjacent
underlay edges at the outer edge of the underlay; and

30 the plurality of anchor sheets are arranged in overlapping fashion to substantially
cover the floor to form a subfloor.

31. The subfloor of claim 30 wherein the means for detachable attachment is hooks for
use in a hook and loop attachment system.

32. The subfloor of claim 31 wherein:
the anchor sheets have a first lower surface opposite the first upper surface covered by
a first resilient layer; and
5 the attachment devices have a second lower surface opposite the second upper surface
covered by a second resilient layer.

33. The subfloor of claim 32 wherein the first resilient layer and the second resilient layer
is a structure with the properties of a resilient cushion.

34. The subfloor of claim 31, wherein the anchor sheets are polygonal and have corners
and are arranged on the floor so at least some of the corners meet and at least one passageway
is located at the intersection of the apexes of at least some of the corners which meet.

35. The subfloor of claim 34 wherein a passageway is located at substantially all of the
intersections of the apexes of the corners which meet.

36. The subfloor of claim 31, wherein some of the attachment devices are attached to the
anchor sheets.

37. The subfloor of claim 31, wherein the anchor sheets are rectangular.

38. The subfloor of claim 31, wherein the plurality of attachment devices inserted in the
passageways are smaller than the passageways so that the surrounding anchor sheets can
25 move in relation to the attachment devices and in which the anchor sheets are installed so that
there is a gap between adjacent anchor sheets to allow for expansion and contraction

39. The subfloor of claim 30, wherein at least one passageway is located at the apexes of
the angles formed by any two of the lower edges and the underlay edges.

40. A subfloor for covering a floor to form a surface to receive a detachable decorative
floor covering having a loop undersurface comprising:

a plurality of square anchor sheets each having a first upper surface substantially covered by hooks for attachment to loops of an overlapping decorative covering and each having a first lower surface having a resilient cushion layer; each anchor sheet having two adjacent edges which have a lower portion cut away to create an overhanging area of anchor sheet and two adjacent lower edges substantially under the overhang and having two adjacent edges having an upper portion cut away to create an underlay area of anchor sheet leaving at least two additional underlay edges at the outer edge of the underlay; the plurality of anchor sheets being arranged in a chess board pattern in which the overhanging area of anchor sheet overlaps part of the underlay area of two adjacent anchor sheets to substantially cover the floor;

a plurality of circular passageways extending from the upper surface of the subfloor to the floor located approximately at the apexes of the angles formed by any two of the lower edges;

the passageways having a first portion countersunk from the upper surface of the subfloor and forming a first bearing surface below the plane of the subfloor;

a plurality of circular attachment devices each having a second upper surface substantially covered by hooks and each having a second lower surface having a resilient cushion layer; and

the plurality of attachment devices being inserted into the passageways such that the second bearing surface faces the first bearing surface and shaped so that the first upper surface and the second upper surface are substantially flush, and at least some of the devices being attached to the floor.

41. A method of installing an anchor sheet subfloor over a floor, the subfloor to receive a detachable decorative covering, said anchor sheets having a cut-away section of reduced thickness of a first area of a first shape at the corners of the anchor sheets and a complete cut of a smaller second area of a second shape within the first area, comprising the steps of:

laying the anchor sheets over a floor;

aligning the anchor sheets so that the corners of the anchor sheets match;

inserting the attachment devices in the completely cut area at the apexes formed by the corners of the anchor sheets; and

attaching at least some of the attachment devices to either the floor or to the anchor sheets they overlap.

42. The method of claim 41 wherein the step of attaching at least some of the attachment devices to either the floor or to the anchor sheets they overlap consists of attaching some of the attachment devices to the floor and the remaining attachment devices to the anchor sheets they overlap.

43. The method of claim 41 wherein the step of attaching at least some of the attachment devices to either the floor or to the anchor sheets they overlap consists of attaching all of the attachment devices to the anchor sheets they overlap.

44. The method of claim 41 wherein the step of attaching at least some of the attachment devices to either the floor or to the anchor sheets they overlap consists of attaching all of the attachment devices to the floor.

45. The method of claim 41 further comprising a step of detachably attaching a decorative covering to the anchor sheets and attachment devices.

46. The method of claim 41 wherein the attachment devices are smaller than the first and second areas and in which the step of laying the anchor sheets over a floor comprises laying the anchor sheets over a floor so that there is a gap between adjacent anchor sheets.

47. An anchor sheet shaped to have a substantially flat square lower layer part having an underside covered in a resilient cushion and a substantially flat square upper layer part of the same size as the lower layer part having an upper side substantially covered in hooks in which the upper layer part is offset from the lower layer part an equal amount along two adjacent edges to expose two adjacent portions of the lower layer part and in which countersunk holes are formed through the anchor sheet centred on the corners formed by the lower layer part.

48. A subfloor for covering a floor to form a surface to receive a detachable decorative floor covering, the subfloor comprising:

a plurality of anchor sheets each having a first upper surface substantially covered by a means for detachable attachment;

the plurality of anchor sheets being arranged to substantially cover the floor to form a subfloor;

5 the anchor sheets having a recess of a first shape reducing the thickness of the anchor sheet in a first area and a complete cut through the anchor sheet of a second shape of a smaller second area within the first area;

a plurality of attachment devices each having a second upper surface substantially covered by a means for detachable attachment;

10 the plurality of attachment devices having a first portion shaped to fit in the recess and a second portion shaped to fit in the complete cut;

the plurality of attachment devices being inserted in the plurality of recesses and complete cuts; and

at least some of the attachment devices being attached to the floor.

49. The subfloor of claim 48, wherein:

the anchor sheets have at least two adjacent edges which have a lower portion cut away to create an overhanging area of anchor sheet and at least two adjacent lower edges substantially under the overhang;

20 the anchor sheets have at least two adjacent edges which have an upper portion cut away to create an underlay area of anchor sheet leaving at least two adjacent underlay edges at the outer edge of the underlay; and

the plurality of anchor sheets are arranged in overlapping fashion to substantially cover the floor to form a subfloor.

50. The subfloor of claim 49 wherein the means for detachable attachment is hooks for use in a hook and loop attachment system.

51. The subfloor of claim 50 wherein:

30 the anchor sheets have a first lower surface opposite the first upper surface covered by a first resilient layer; and

the attachment devices have a second lower surface opposite the second upper surface covered by a second resilient layer.

52. The subfloor of claim 50, wherein the anchor sheets are rectangular.

53. The subfloor of claim 50, wherein the plurality of attachment devices inserted in the
5 plurality of recesses and complete cuts are smaller than the first and second areas so that the
surrounding anchor sheets can move in relation to the attachment devices and in which the
anchor sheets are installed so that there is a gap between adjacent anchor sheets.

54. The subfloor of claim 50, wherein the first shape is the same shape as the second
10 shape.

55. The subfloor of claim 50, wherein the recess and complete cut are at the corners of the
anchor sheet.

56. The subfloor of claim 49, wherein the complete cut is at the apexes of the angles
15 formed by any two of the lower edges and the underlay edges.

57. A kit for installing a subfloor for attaching a decorative covering, the kit comprising:
20 at least one anchor sheet having a first upper surface substantially covered by a means
for detachable attachment;
the at least one anchor sheet having a recess of a first shape reducing the thickness of
the anchor sheet in a first area and a complete cut through the anchor sheet of
a smaller second area within the first area of a second shape;
25 at least one attachment device having a second upper surface substantially covered by
a means for detachable attachment; and
the at least one attachment device having a first portion shaped to fit in the recess and
a second portion shaped to fit in the complete cut.

58. The kit of claim 57, further comprising:
30 the at least one anchor sheet having at least two adjacent edges which have a lower
portion cut away to create an overhanging area of anchor sheet and at least two
adjacent lower edges substantially under the overhang; and

the at least one anchor sheet having at least two adjacent edges which have an upper portion cut away to create an underlay area of anchor sheet leaving at least two adjacent underlay edges at the outer edge of the underlay.

5 59. The kit of claim 57, further comprising:
the means for attachment being hooks for use in a hook and loop attachment system.

60. An anchor sheet for use in a subfloor for detachable attachment to a decorative covering, the anchor sheet comprising:

10 an upper surface having a means for detachable attachment to the decorative covering;
a lower surface opposite the upper surface, the lower surface being covered with a resilient layer;
a recess of a first shape reducing the thickness of the anchor sheet in a first area; and
a complete cut through the anchor sheet of a smaller second area within the first area
15 of a second shape.

61. The anchor sheet of 60, the anchor sheet having at least two adjacent edges which have a lower portion cut away to create an overhanging area of anchor sheet and at least two adjacent lower edges substantially under the overhang; and the anchor sheet having at least
20 two adjacent edges which have an upper portion cut away to create an underlay area of anchor sheet leaving at least two adjacent underlay edges at the outer edge of the underlay.

62. The anchor sheet of claim 60, wherein the means for attachment are hooks for use in a hook and loop attachment system.

63. The anchor sheet of claim 62, wherein the resilient layer is a structure that has the properties of a resilient cushion.

64. The anchor sheet of claim 62, wherein the anchor sheet is rectangular.

65. An attachment device for use in a subfloor with a corresponding anchor sheet for detachable attachment to a decorative covering, the anchor sheet having a recess of a first shape reducing the thickness of the anchor sheet in a first area, the anchor sheet having a

complete cut of a smaller second area of a second shape within the first area, the attachment device comprising:

- a first upper surface bearing a means for detachable attachment;
- a first portion attached to the first upper surface and shaped to fit in the recess;
- 5 a second portion attached to the first portion and shaped to fit in the complete cut;
- the second portion having a lower surface covered with a flexible rigid layer; and
- the second portion having at least one resilient layer.

66. The attachment device of claim 65, wherein the means for detachable attachment are hooks for use in a hook and loop attachment system.

67. The attachment piece of claim 66, wherein the attachment device has a flexible rigid upper surface.

68. The attachment device of claim 66, wherein the first portion is smaller than the recess and the second portion is smaller than the complete cut.

69. A method of installing an anchor sheet and attachment piece subfloor over a floor, the subfloor to receive a detachable decorative covering, said anchor sheets having an upper surface having a means for detachable attachment to the decorative covering and a cut-away section of reduced thickness of a first area of a first shape and a complete cut through the anchor sheet of a smaller second area of a second shape within the first area, said attachment devices having an upper surface having a means for detachable attachment to the decorative covering, comprising the steps of:

- laying the anchor sheets over a floor;
- inserting the attachment devices in the complete cut areas; and
- attaching at least some of the attachment devices to either the floor or to the surrounding anchor sheets.

70. The method of claim 69, wherein the anchor sheets are designed to overlap and the step of laying the anchor sheets over a floor consists of laying the anchor sheets in overlapping fashion over a floor.

71. The method of claim 70, wherein the step of attaching at least some of the attachment devices to either the floor or to the anchor sheets they overlap consists of attaching some of the attachment devices to the floor and the remaining attachment devices to the anchor sheets they overlap.

72. The method of claim 70 wherein the step of attaching at least some of the attachment devices to either the floor or to the anchor sheets they overlap consists of attaching all of the attachment devices to the anchor sheets they overlap.

73. The method of claim 70 wherein the step of attaching at least some of the attachment devices to either the floor or to the anchor sheets they overlap consists of attaching all of the attachment devices to the floor.

74. A method of installing an anchor sheet subfloor with an upper surface and a lower surface over a floor to receive a detachable decorative covering, said subfloor having passageways extending from the upper surface of the subfloor to the lower surface of the subfloor, said upper surface having a means of detachable attachment to the decorative covering, comprising the steps of:

- arranging the anchor sheets over a floor;
- inserting attachment devices in the passageways; and
- attaching at least some of the attachment devices to either the floor or to the surrounding anchor sheets.

75. The method of claim 74, wherein the anchor sheets are designed to overlap and the step of arranging the anchor sheets over a floor consists of arranging the anchor sheets in overlapping fashion over a floor.

76. A square anchor sheet for use in a subfloor for detachable attachment to a decorative covering, the decorative covering having a lower surface substantially covered by loops, the square anchor sheet comprising:

- an upper surface substantially covered by hooks, the hooks for attachment to the loops of an overlaid decorative covering;

a lower surface opposite the upper surface, the lower surface being covered with a resilient layer;

two adjacent edges which have a lower portion cut away to create an overhanging area of anchor sheet and two adjacent lower edges substantially under the overhang;

two adjacent edges which have an upper portion cut away to create an underlay area of anchor sheet leaving at least two adjacent underlay edges at the outer edge of the underlay;

four circular recesses reducing the thickness of the anchor sheet;

one of the circular recesses centred on the apexes of the angles formed by the two lower edges;

one of the circular recesses centred on the apexes of the angles formed by the two underlay edges;

two of the circular recesses centred on the apexes of the angles formed by an underlay edge and a lower edge;

four circular complete cuts through the anchor sheet of a smaller diameter than the four circular recesses; and

the four circular complete cuts located at the centre of the four circular recesses.